



St Louis Catholic Academy Newsletter

November 2023



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Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our second half of Autumn term as we prepare for Advent and our fundraising for CAFOD. All our teachers have been especially busy at the start of term and our packed curriculum has seen all our children learning much new knowledge and many skills. I'm especially impressed by our Reception year's new readers who have whizzed through their Little Wandle Phonics learning. Your support from home is much appreciated.

Over half term, Mr Mannell celebrated the arrival of little Luca, who is also Mrs Baldwin's first grandchild! This term, the PTA are hosting their first International Party, a bring and share celebration of all the cultural diversity of children in our school. The fantastic Christmas Fair is soon too and the PTA will be calling for volunteers to support them in running this event.

Mrs Conway has published her first Inclusion and Family Support Newsletter to increase understanding of all the support available to learners and their families and signpost to other services.

I am very grateful for all your contributions to the consultation about school uniform. After taking onboard all your comments, Governors held a vote to change the uniform or to remain as existing. There was a considerable vote to remain as we are and so we will not make any further changes in the foreseeable future.

Mrs Brankin has established our 2023 School Council and we look forward to acting upon their ideas to make our school even better. The friendship bench installed at the request of last year's School Councillors is used every breaktime.

Year 6 have begun their final year of study with incredible maturity and focus. We've enjoyed a retreat together at Clare Priory and the return to Mass at Norwich Cathedral for the Catholic Schools across the Diocese of East Anglia.

Finally, last but by no means least, we have achieved Artsmark Silver Award for our art work. This is thanks to all the staff but especially to Mrs Baldwin who took us through the two year process of achieving this.

God Bless

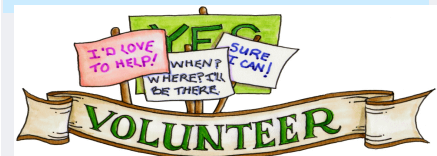
Sue Blakeley
Headteacher



Artsmark Silver Award
Awarded by Arts Council England



RC DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA
Registered Charity No. 276742



Please use Ofsted Parent View to give your views

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

Our school supports the work of Cafod <https://cafod.org.uk/>



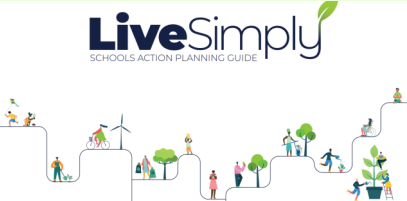
Year 6 Mass at Norwich Cathedral



Our new chaplains have been busy leading prayers and assemblies during the start of the year. These children, chosen by staff, are role models to younger children across school and represent our school's commitment to living out the Gospel Values through their service to school.

Year 6 travelled to Norwich to celebrate Mass led by Bishop Peter Collins.

Around 750 pupils from all 28 Catholic schools across the Diocese of East Anglia gathered in St John the Baptist Cathedral in Norwich on Friday September 29th to celebrate the start of the academic year with a special Schools Mass led by our new Bishop.



We are working towards this CAFOD award led by Mrs Brankin

Planning example

GLOBAL IMPACT	Engage with CAFOD Lent fundraiser on global food poverty.	Set up fairtrade stall or group for school.	Engage with CAFOD's latest campaign.
LOCAL IMPACT	Set up links and create a school action with the local foodbank.	Joint parish and school reduce, reuse and recycle scheme.	Create a family led eco-promise activity, where parents take action.
SCHOOL IMPACT	Create a live simply pledge wall and actions.	Set up eco-club, and target sustainable actions.	Create a prayer garden to pray and reflect on living simply.

[Bishop Peter outlines his vision for Catholic education - Catholic Diocese Of East Anglia \(rcdea.org.uk\)](http://rcdea.org.uk)

We are here to help 2023 2024

Acorns Nursery	Mrs Rossiter-Johnston	acorns@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Cherry	Mrs Smith	cherry@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Holly	Mrs Baldwin Phase Leader	holly@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Rowan	Mrs Musciconico Phase Leader	rowan@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Lime	Mrs Brankin	lime@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Oak	Mrs Hodson	oak@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Sycamore	Mrs Wyatt Mrs Conway SENCo	sycamore@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Beech	Mrs Vickerage	beech@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Elm	Mrs Woodruff	elm@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Hazel	Miss Spratt	hazel@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Larch	Mr Mannell	larch@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Maple	Mrs White Assistant Headteacher Phase Leader Mrs Masters	maple@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Headteacher	Mrs Blakeley	sueblakeley@stlouisacademy.co.uk
Admin	Mrs Jones Mrs Barlow Mrs Phillips Mrs Fieldsend	admin@stlouisacademy.co.uk

Teaching Support

Our support staff move around school to meet the needs across school

School Uniform Survey

Thank you to all the families who suggested changes to the school uniform. The school governors made suggestions based upon your feedback and then presented two choices:

Remain with existing or
Change to revised uniform.

The votes were as follows:

Remain 62.7%

Change 37.3%

Therefore, we'll remain as existing. Please note that much of the uniform can already be purchased from high street supermarkets or online. We also have a fabulous second hand uniform shop on the school uniform Facebook page.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



If you, or your child, receive certain benefits, you may be eligible for free school meals from **Year 3 and above**. Check now with Suffolk County Council. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for free school meals regardless of household income.

Your child will get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit but no element of Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190

If you are supported under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work fewer hours per week

Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400 (£616.67 per month), as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

To check if your child is eligible, apply online for an immediate response

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals>

or call 0345 606 6067 for advice.

PTA News

We are very excited to be planning our first 'St Louis International Party' This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many nationalities represented across the school.

Please bring and share foods with us on **Friday 3rd November 3.30pm - 5pm** to represent our many cultures. If you wish, this is also an opportunity to wear cultural dress and to share traditional dance and music from around the world.

We will not be providing any foods and so rely on the generosity of families to bring contributions.

Please let us know in advance of any songs, games or dances that you wish to showcase by emailing us at

friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com.



Thank you.
St Louis PTA



**ALONE WE CAN DO
SO LITTLE**



**TOGETHER WE CAN
DO SO MUCH**

Email friendsofstlouis2020@gmail.com for more info on how your parents/carers voice can be heard and what you can do to help raise funds so we can provide more opportunities for our children.

Cake Sales

Proceeds from cake sales go back to the class for items that the teacher requests from the PTA

Year 1: Date tbc

year 2: 26th January 2024

year 3: 28th March 2024

year 4: 26th April 2024

year 5: 24th May 2024

Reception: 28th June 2024

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Christmas Tea Towels : an ideal gift for everyone

Children will be producing tea towels for sale

The PTA are selling tea towels with children featured on each (self drawn by each child).

There will be tea towels for:

Reception Children

KS1 & KS2



**HOLD THE DATE
CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Friday 1st December 2023

3.30pm to 5.30pm

Lost Clothing Around School

Every week, we collect twenty or more items of unlabelled clothing, wash and give them to Mrs Das to add to the Facebook Nearly New Shop Uniform page. Some of you may be rebuying your own clothes! Please label clothes with a laundry pen (full name please) or use sew on labels.

All clothes found around school will be stored in the plastic trunk outside the school office for you to collect.

Stikins Uniform Name Labels

These Stikins name labels for clothes and shoes are a great way to avoid your child losing their school uniform and also generates 30% in commission for school! Here is a link with more information and how to place your order—our fundraising number is 20400 <https://www.stikins.co.uk/name-labels/>

Each week, we collect many unlabelled items of clothing. When we find a name label, we work to unite your child with their lost property. Please buy some labels or use a laundry pen to mark up all uniform.



Mini Vinnies for UKS2



Mrs Das and the Mini Vinnies Coordinator, Barbara, are coming into school to relaunch our Mini Vinnies group this term. Mini Vinnies empowers primary school students to become advocates within their school and local community by putting Vinnies Values into action. They meet regularly to learn about social justice issues, develop leadership skills and engage with the local community. Mini Vinnies is about young people meeting to talk, share ideas and concerns, to have fun and support each other. While doing 'good works' in the community to help people who are struggling.

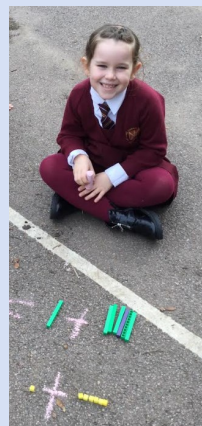
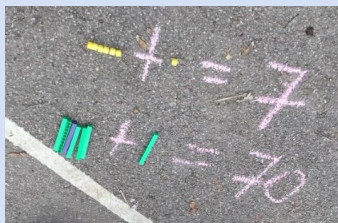
Some Mini Vinnies may choose to focus on their local community while others will also have an international focus. To find out more:

[Parents' Zone | St Vincent de Paul Society \(svp.org.uk\)](http://www.svp.org.uk)

Out and About with Lime Class

We used our creativity and problem solving skills to build a skeleton as part of our Human Body unit.

Year 2 took maths outside when we were observing related number facts.



We learned and prayed the rosary during morning prayer.

Geographers in Rowan Class

Rowan class have been studying their local area and drawing maps this term. We base our St Louis Geography curriculum on the Primary Knowledge Curriculum.

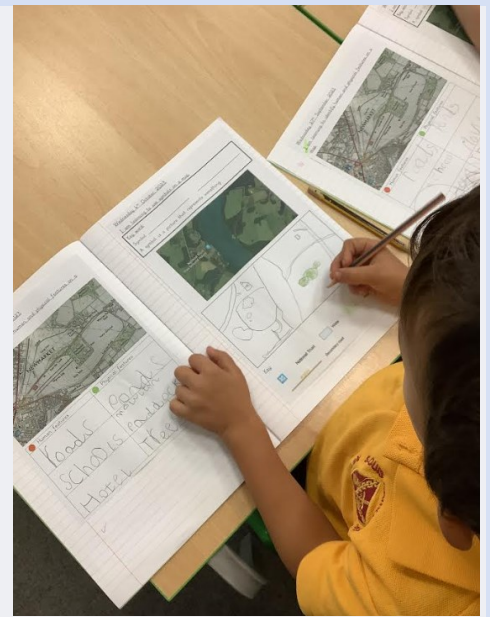
Year 1 are gaining knowledge and understanding of Spatial Sense and covering:

1. Aerial Views
2. Maps
3. Location
4. Compass Points
5. Drawing maps

The principles of our knowledge rich curriculum are that:

- Knowledge is valued and specified
- Knowledge is well-sequenced
- Knowledge is taught to be remembered.

We are finding that children are rising to the challenge of being exposed to this detailed learning from a young age.



Our School Council

This term, classes held elections for their new school councilors, with each class choosing a Councilor and Deputy. Beech Class used a ballot box with polling clerks ready to collect secret votes.

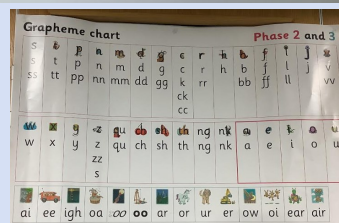
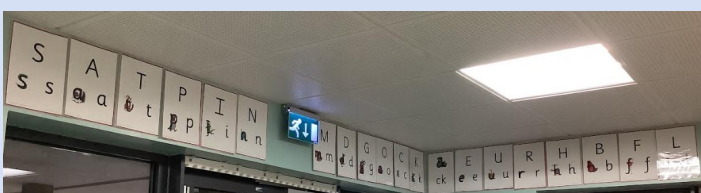
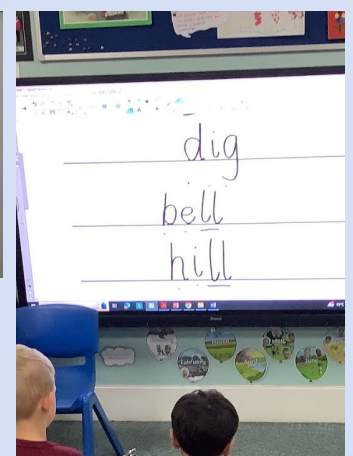
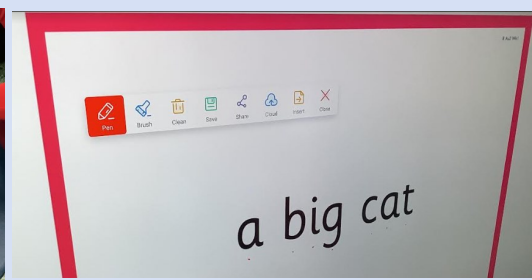
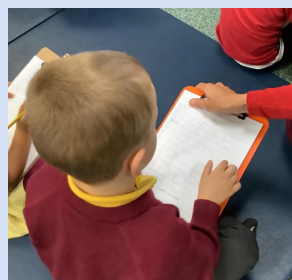
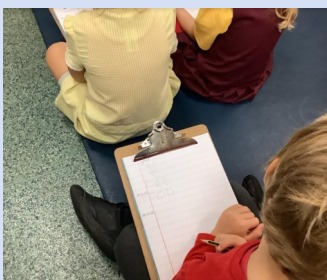
Each class used the elections to talk about democracy. The School Council will be supported by Mrs Brankin. Our School Council brings forward all their class views and ideas to improve the school.

The first meeting of the year coincided with our wear red event to Show Racism the Red Card.

We look forward to hearing all the great ideas that classes wish to share.

Phonics and Early Reading

Mrs Baldwin leads early reading up to Year 1 and Mrs White leads reading from Year 2 upwards. Reception children are now reading phrases, spelling and writing CVC words. The children use the displays to help them with their letter formation and spelling. We use our fingers to sound talk when we spell the CVC words. They form their letters early and will be writing words and sentences during the year.



St Louis Sisters Nest

We have been fortunate to have £100,000 from the Sisters of St Louis, gifted to the Diocese for the development of a wellbeing hub in our school. This is advancing steadily with ground investigations completed in the courtyard area beside the school library. Building control are currently reviewing the plans.



The new room will be used for pastoral work with children, provide a quiet space for children needing a small and calm area to focus in and it will be an area that meetings with families can take place. We are blessed to be given this generous gift that the Sisters request is used to support mental wellbeing. Subject to planning approval, we hope to see development start in this school year.

St Louis Writing Festival

Mrs White has organised an exciting Writing Festival for the third year.

Highlights have included buddy writing with older writers scribing the imaginative ideas of younger children;

Visit by author David Shelton, sharing his books;

Whole School writing task: The Day the Crayons Quit;

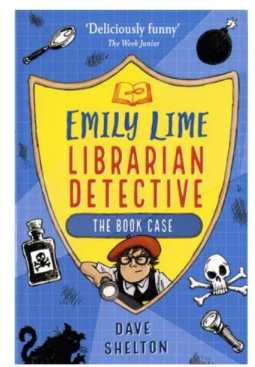
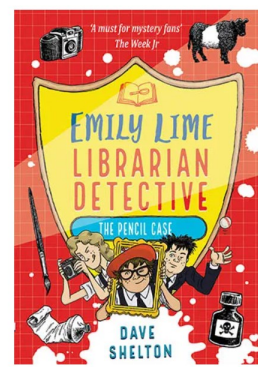
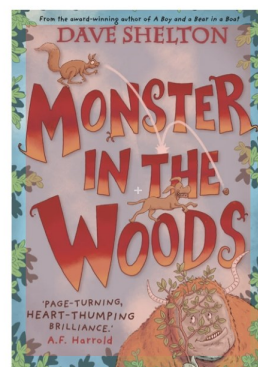
Poetry challenge;

Writing competition;

Parent drop in and write, and

Share a story with a friend.

Thank you Mrs White: we love your festivals!





We will be thinking about all those who have died in wars on Remembrance Day this year. Each Class will be laying their class wreaths in the Prayer Garden.

Poppies will be on sale, led by the Year 6

Online Safety

Increasingly, very young children are being given iPads and phones with online connectivity and these present risks if not managed by an adult.

There are many great websites for parents who are looking for help with keeping children safe online:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Keeping children safe online | NSPCC

CEOP Education (thinkuknow.co.uk)

Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides | Internet Matters Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides | Internet Matters <https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Own It - A place to help you boss your life online www.bbc.com/ownit/about-us/what-is-own-it

<https://safetynet.com/>

Parental controls offered by your home internet provider - UK Safer Internet Centre

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parental-controls-offered-by-your-home-internet-provider>

ProjectEVOLVE - Education for a Connected World Resources

Homepage - UK Safer Internet Centre

TIPS TO STAY SAFE ONLINE

There are lots of things you can do to keep yourself safe online.

• Think before you post

Don't upload or share anything you wouldn't want your parents, carers, teachers or future employers seeing. Once you post something, you lose control of it, especially if someone else screenshots or shares it.

• Don't share personal details

Keep things like your address, phone number, full name, school and date of birth private, and check what people can see in your privacy settings. Remember that people can use small clues like a school logo in a photo to find out a lot about you.

• Watch out for phishing and scams

Phishing is when someone tries to trick you into giving them information, like your password. Someone might also try to trick you by saying they can make you famous or that they're from a talent agency. Never click links from emails or messages that ask you to log in or share your details, even if you think they might be genuine. If you're asked to log into a website, go to the app or site directly instead.

• Think about who you're talking to

There are lots of ways that people try to trick you into trusting them online. Even if you like and trust someone you've met online, never share personal information with them like your address, full name, or where you go to school. [Find out more about grooming.](#)

• Keep your device secure

Make sure that you're keeping your information and device secure.

• Never give out your password

You should never give out your password or log-in information. Make sure you pick strong, easy to remember [passwords](#).

• Cover your webcam

Some viruses will let someone access your webcam without you knowing, so make sure you cover your webcam whenever you're not using it.

Welcome to CEOP Education



Education from the National Crime Agency

The National Crime Agency's CEOP Education team aim to help protect children and young people from online child sexual abuse.

We do this through our education programme, providing training, resources and information to professionals working with children, young people and their families.

I am:

A professional working with children and young people

A parent or carer

4-7 years old

8-10 years old

11-18 years old

UK Safer Internet Centre

Online issues - Guides and resources - Training and events - Safer Internet Day - Blog - Research - About

Helping children and young people stay safe online

- Professionals Online Safety Helpline
Support for professionals working with children
- Hotline
Report online child sexual abuse images or videos
- Report Harmful Content
Assistance for reporting harmful content online
- Revenge Porn Helpline
Supporting adults who are experiencing intimate image abuse

**If your child was born between
1 September 2019 and
31 August 2020,
you must apply for a full-time
Reception Year school place by
15th January 2024**



You must make an application even if your child already has a place in a nursery class, pre-school or family hub

To apply for a place or for more information you can visit:

www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions

Information is also available from:

- The Admissions Team on 0345 600 0981
- Your local school

Diary Dates 2023 2024

Autumn Term 2023

Term Ends – Wednesday 20th December

Spring Term 2024

Staff Professional Day – Wednesday 3rd January

Term Commences – Thursday 4th January

Half Term - Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February

Thursday 28th March – Term Ends

Summer Term 2024

Staff Professional Day – Friday 12th April

Term Commences - Monday 15th April

May Bank Holiday - Monday 6th May

Half Term - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Term Ends - Friday 19th July

November

11th November - Remembrance Day
14th–18 November Anti bullying week

December

Sun, 3rd Dec 2023 – Sun, 24th Dec 2023 Advent
Thursday 7th December Whole school Pantomime visit to Theatre Royal
Wednesday 13th December Christmas Dinner and Parties
Wednesday 13th December School Choir singing at Tattersalls—Racing Welfare Concert details tbc
Reception and KS1 Nativity in church—date tbc
Wednesday 20th Christmas Carols in church
Friday 1st December 3.30-5.30 pm Christmas Fair in School Hall

January—July

Fairtrade Celebrations in February—details to be confirmed.
8 - 17 March 2024 British Science Week
Thursday 7th March World Book Day
Friday 15th March Dress as a scientist
23rd March 2024 World Maths Day
KS2 Easter Play—date tbc
May 2023 KS1 Testing
Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May 2024 KS2 SATS
Yr 4 w/c 2nd June multiplication test
w/c 10th June Phonics Yr 1 screening
Reading at Bedtime with Pizza Supper—date tbc
Thursday 27th June Summer Art Exhibition
Friday 5th July 3.30pm Summer Fair
Friday 12th July Sports Day with contingency
Monday 15th July



Inclusion & Family Support Newsletter



Autumn Term 1 2023

The new Inclusion & Family Support Newsletter from Mrs Conway, our SENCo was recently circulated. Here is a link to the Newsletter in case you missed it.

<https://www.stlouisacademy.co.uk/site/data/files/sen-newsletters/8F078C216F51C88F4ABBF889584B113F.pdf>

You helped us to raise

Macmillan Coffee Morning £306

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Young Minds £194.95

YOUNGMINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

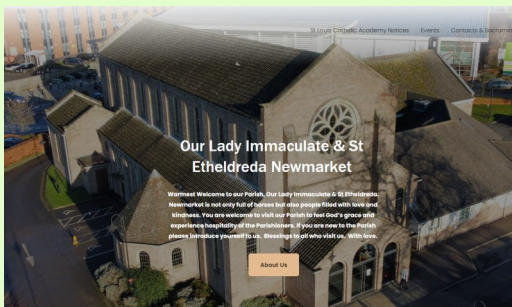
Show Racism the Red Card £136.49

WEAR RED
DAY 23

Show Racism the Red Card's annual 'Wear Red Day' will be taking place on Friday 20th October 2023. Last year, an incredible 440,000 individuals registered to celebrate with us on Wear Red Day. To us it was a sign that we have never been more in demand, more needed or more relevant.

Our Parish Church

<https://www.olise.co.uk/>



St Louis School
KS2 Choir has
40 members!
Let us know if
you wish to join
Wednesdays
3.30pm to 4pm

Our school community library will open to families on Mondays, Tuesday and Wednesdays 3.30pm to 4pm for everyone to enjoy. Each child can loan a book to take home.



Masses 2023 2024

**Families are welcome to attend all of our Masses
(these sometimes need to change if the Priest is
unexpectedly unavailable)**

**We will update the calendar throughout the
school year**

Wednesday 1st November School to join parish Mass for All Saints Wednesday

Friday 1st December Advent Service: 1:45-3pm

December Reception and KS1 Nativity Performance in Church—date tbc

Wednesday 20th December Carol Service 1:45-3pm

Friday 12th January Start of term Mass: 9:15 whole school

Wednesday 14th February School to join parish Mass for Ash Wednesday

Thursday 9th May School to join parish Mass for Ascension

**July Leavers Mass - will depend on the transition dates from secondary schools
closer to the time.**

Friday 19th July End of year Mass: 9:15 am whole school

